erection. The amount subscribed up to last report was 317,000*l.*, this year increased to 390,000*l.* The actual income for the past year amounted to 18,729*l.* 4s.; and the outlay for the immediate purposes of the fund, during the same period, was 11,274*l.* 16s., leaving a balance of 7,454*l.*

LONDON PARISHES HAVING COUNTRY BURYING GROUNDS, &c.

Sir,—A few remarks on the above subject, mentioning the few London parishes which have anticipated the dawn of more fitting arrangements, may be a suitable pendant to the article on "Joint Parochial Cemeteries," which you were pleased to insert on the 30th ultimo.

I am glad to be able to say, that some London clergymen, besides laymen, who have seen that suggestion, have decidedly approved it, thinking it perfectly practicable, and not liable to abuses. Whatever might be the best ultimate arrangement, the *fact* is certain, that *hitherto* the majority (I think) prefer the *choked* grounds, with old associations, to the new general cemeteries—thus apparently wishing for "neighbourhood" in burial.

Such a plan also, might be still better suited to very populous places in the country; and might, I think, be available for the "City" of London, changing the divisions of *parishes*, on account of their immense number and small population, for that of "*Wards*." On these subjects, something more may be said another time.

St. Andrew's, Holborn.—This ground, in the Gray's Inn Road, cannot now be called "country," but was much more so at the time of its establishment, upwards of forty years ago. Containing 2½ acres, it was much curtailed by the erection, eight years ago, of a church *upon the ground*, which church, however desirable or necessary, ought certainly to have been placed any where else. This was not only "robbing Peter to pay Paul," but rubbing here much the poorer of the two. 'Tis true the building is vaulted under, but *that* accommodation is for the rich, not the poor. The ground is, I believe, decently kept and managed; but with its closely-crowded old church-yard and great population, this parish must greatly require fresh room.

St. Pancras.—Further removed, towards Kentish town, is the original churchyard of this parish. It is, by additions, very large, (about seven acres); celebrated for the interment of French refugees, and foreigners of rank; and though it can scarcely be called neat, is, I believe, destitute of the abominations sometimes found elsewhere, but still insufficient for the immense population.

St. Giles's in the Fields—immediately adjoining, about four acres, is the most pleasing of all,—though the poor or "cheapest" part, is beginning to be crowded. Having only one scale of fees would remedy this. This ground has many flowery and well-kept graves and tombs, and is well fitted for a contemplative stroll on a spring or summer day, from which a man might return better hearted. The most striking tomb, with cypresses, is that of Sir John Soane. Dr. Buckner, rector of St. Giles' and Bishop of Chichester, an esteemed prelate, who lived to a venerable age, consecrated this ground in 1804. There is a small chapel at the entrance, and a residence for the sexton, or superintendent, who is in deacon's orders and performs the service.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, at Camden-town, is little larger, and is respectable, with a small chapel, but the flattest and most uninteresting (at present) of the whole. I have heard that early and private disturbance of bodies occurs here; but as the party asserting it was evidently a profligate character, it is mentioned, hoping it may be known to be false. As this parish has a shockingly crowded ground in Drury-lane, further arrangements may be very desirable.

St. James's (Piccadilly), in the Hampstead-road, about 3½ acres, retired from the road, and not unpleasing. It was established about fifty years ago, and has a spacious chapel (for Sunday duty also), with a good organ and stone turret, containing about 800 persons. This, and St. Giles', are sometimes used by the parish in which they are situated (St. Pancras), and by others. St. James's chapel, &c. may be termed ornamented by the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Stebbing, not only distinguished in literature, but as one of the best and warmest-hearted Christians in London.

St. Marylebone, at St. John's-wood, has a large entrance chapel, or church, with an Ionic portico and bold turret, containing, however, a bell of petty size, in lieu of a deep toned one. The size is about six acres; the lower part tastefully ornamented, but the upper, or "cheaper" ground is, or was a few years back, very slovenly, with graves half filled, or the boards left in, &c. This parish has a crowded ground, in which the poor are buried, near the old and new churches.

This, omitting suburban parishes, is the whole list, and is sufficiently meagre.

I am, Sir, &c.,
J. D. Parry.

London, June, 1846.

THE BRITTON TESTIMONIAL.

We mentioned some time ago, that a pamphlet had been distributed amongst the subscribers to the fund raised for this purpose, giving the speeches delivered at the dinner on the 7th of July last, a list of the subscribers, and a statement of the arrangement that had been made. As we had previously informed our readers on all these points, we did not go further into detail. We cannot avoid, however, quoting some eloquent and kind remarks on the pamphlet, from the accomplished pen of the Rev. J. Mitford, which appear in the current number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, agreeing most cordially with them, as we do:—

"To be born to honours is a happy accident; to achieve them is a noble distinction. Mr. Britton's honourable career is all his own; he has gained his station in life by diligent exertion, by the possession of useful and elegant acquirements, by eminence in his own particular line of study, by general intelligence in other branches of science and art, by a love of literature, and by a generous and liberal assistance to those employed in pursuits congenial to his own. To his labours the architecture—and particularly the ecclesiastical and domestic architecture of the country, is deeply indebted for the restoration of what was decayed, and the improvement of what was defective." "There are, however, still higher qualities belonging to our nature, than those of mere intellectual excellence, and greater endowments than those of scientific acquirements. Mr. Britton is justly endeared to his friends by the virtues of his heart, as well as valued by them for the cultivation of his mind. Whoever is acquainted with him must be pleasingly impressed with the simplicity of his manners, the kindness of his address, and the open, candid, and generous expression of his feelings. The humble writer of these few lines has every reason to be proud of the honour conferred by his friendship, as he willingly confesses the advantage he has derived from his knowledge and attainments. Mr. Britton has enjoyed the enviable privilege of friendly and familiar intercourse with some of the most eminent persons of his age; and we can say that many who, like ourselves, originally came to him for advice and instruction, soon felt anxious to cultivate a more familiar acquaintance, and to make private friendship be the happy result of professional reputation. The names which appear in the list of subscribers before us, afford an ample testimonial of all that we have said. They extend through all classes, from the peer to the professional artist, and by their extension they stamp a more authentic value on their approbation. Such a band of friends any man may be justly proud of; and we trust that in Mr. Britton's mind and feelings, the present public evidence of attachment will shed a bright and genial lustre over the shadows of advancing age, as they are slowly and gently closing on a long and honourable and happy life." To which with perfect sincerity, and great cordiality, we say, amen.

College at Hong Kong.—The magnificent sum of 10,000*l.*, it is said, has been contributed; one-half towards the erection of a college at Hong Kong, and the other half towards the endowment of a bishopric there.

The Croydon Atmospheric Line has been put out of condition by the hot weather effecting the valve.

THE IRON TRADE.

Notwithstanding the opinion entertained at the beginning of the quarter, that the prices could not be maintained, the iron trade has continued much as it was. The orders on the books for engineering purposes were so great, coupled with the expectations arising from projected railroads, that the masters determined on maintaining the prices declared at the last series of district meetings, and they have done so, and are now, in fact, congratulating themselves on their resolution. Two weeks ago, it was the intention of some of them to blow out a number of furnaces, in order that they might keep the supply fully within the rates of current demand. Now there seems to be a confident expectation amongst them that even an advance on the present high prices may be proposed at the next meeting. The great difficulty, however, has been to *maintain* the present prices; and that done, many of them are satisfied, as they well may be. The general belief, at all events, is, that the orders on hand will enable them to withstand any *reduction* at the next meeting. "If the American tariff," says the Birmingham correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, "which our last advices from that country left lying on the table of the Senate, had not been interrupted in its progress by the Mexican war, there can be no doubt we should have every reason to look forward to a great advance in the price of iron. At present the duty on sheet iron imported into America out of this country is 56 dollars. The proposed new tariff would reduce it 14½ dollars, which, at the present cost of iron in this country, and freight, &c., would enable the American manufacturers to have good Staffordshire iron for about 15*l.* a ton in place of some 25*l.*, which it now costs in their own country. In the absence, however, of this great impetus, and knowing the state of our own market, I have no difficulty in saying there cannot be any further advance of prices."

On the other hand, the *Mining Journal* thinks that, "unless some extraordinary political or commercial event, which cannot be anticipated, takes place during the next two months, the present prices will, in all probability, be maintained—in Staffordshire, at least."

At Glasgow the prices of pig-iron are much the same as our last quotations. On the 6th of June the prices quoted are—69s. for No. 1, and 65s. 6d. for No. 3, per ton, net cash. Sales to a moderate extent were effected last week at 69s., 67s. 6d., and 68s. 6d., for No. 1; 65s., 66s., and 64s., for No. 3, net cash, and at 70s. by bill at three months—dealers not at all anxious to operate—market closed dull—but no decided decline to report

Spread of Knowledge.—At a meeting of delegates from mechanics' institutes in union, held last week at Huddersfield, Lord Morpeth, who presided, said, "That although politics were very properly excluded from meetings like that, he trusted he might be allowed to advert to a question which had of late much agitated the public mind. He alluded to the repeal of the Corn Laws. And why did he mention that? Because he trusted that as that question was about to be finally settled, it would leave an open stage for other questions that must succeed it. The repeal of the Corn Laws might bring more wheat for man, more oats for horses, more maize for cattle. But for men who spoke and reasoned, and enrolled themselves as members of mechanics' institutes, something more was required than the meat that perisheth. And when the legislature shall have done its part as regards material things, the people must put forth their efforts to educate the immortal soul. Then they would expect Lord John Russell to write a letter against the evils of ignorance, which are more fatal than the evils of fever and mortality; they would expect Sir Robert Peel to bring in a bill for a general system of education; they would expect Cobden and Bright to agitate for free trade in slates and primmers, for learning for the many, and literature for the millions. His lordship then enlarged upon the utility of mechanics' institutes, and recommended his hearers, whilst supporting them, to add to knowledge virtue, which would ensure them everlasting happiness and peace."

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